

PRICE ONE CENT.

## EXTRA

2 O'CLOCK.

## BURNED!

5 Dead in the Big  
Leland Hotel Fire  
at Syracuse.

## MANY BADLY HURT.

The Fire Department  
Utterly Inadequate  
to the Occasion.

## GORA TANNER'S CLOSE CALL.

An Estimated Loss  
of \$200,000 in  
Property.Heart-Rending Scenes as Flames  
Claimed Their Victims.

(SPECIAL TO THE EVENING WORLD.)  
SYRACUSE, Oct. 18.—This city was the scene of a terrible calamity during the hours just preceding daylight this morning.

The Leland Hotel, the largest and grandest hotel in the city, got afire at a little before 1 o'clock, and now it is a dismantled ruin.

At least fifteen people lost their lives, and the fearfully diminutive and inefficient fire department was powerless before the mighty blaze.

**THE DEAD.**  
The dead, as far as identified, are as follows:  
WILLIAM E. HARRAP, Elizabeth N. J. business at 70 West street, New York.

MICHAEL WALKER, servant in the hotel.  
BRIDGET DOYLE, a servant.  
MARY PADDEN, a servant.  
FRANK CARREY, Glenn's Falls, N. Y.

The injured:  
GORA TANNER, the actress, severely burned on hands and arms.  
BENNETT FORBES, Syracuse stock broker, burning about the head.

Thousands of citizens came from their midnight slumbers and watched the terrible scene all through the night.

**THE FIRE'S BEGINNING.**  
The fire started in the kitchen, and it had gained considerable headway before it was discovered.

The Leland was a six-story building, opened by Warren, Leland, Jr., & Co., and Mr. Leland was in personal charge.

There were 400 rooms, and electric bells in every room connected with the clerk's desk.

The night clerk sounded an alarm on all his bells through the house and a terrible panic ensued.

The guests rushed for the stairways in their night clothes, screaming and in an agony of fear.

Others chose the rope fire-escapes, and some in their frenzy leaped out of windows.

**TRUSTED TO ROPE.**  
One woman threw the rope fire-escape out of her window on the fourth floor and trusted herself upon it.

She had successfully lowered herself about twelve feet, the crowd below watching her breathlessly.

Suddenly there was a suppressed murmur of horror in the crowd of onlookers.

Little tongues of flame were thrust fitfully out at the third-story window, over which the fire rope was already stretched.

It was the question in every mind.

**THE STAIRS BURNED AWAY.**  
People turned back at the sight, but no eye was removed from the awful scene, and thirty seconds later their question was answered.

The flames severed the rope, and the woman fell to the pavement.

She was killed instantly. Her body was flattened, every bone broken and her brains dashed out upon the sidewalk.

**UNREASONING LEAPS.**  
Six people leaped from windows in their desperation, and lost their lives.

One woman escaped to clamber down the iron fire-escape from a third-story window, but was overcome by the dense volume of smoke that poured out of the window below her, relaxed her grasp upon the rungs of the iron ladder, and came tumbling down, falling at the feet of the crowd of horrified citizens.

A minute afterwards three men leaped from the same window and were gathered

up from the Fayette street pavement, limp and unconscious, with broken bones and probably fatal injuries.

The hotel was situated on the corner of Franklin street, the street that crosses the New York Central tracks at the eastern end of the depot, and only the station of the American Express Company is between the railway and the hotel.

The passengers on every incoming train were awakened by the noise and excitement and the glare of the big fire.

All left their trains and swelled the horrid throngs that filled all the thoroughfares leading to the scene of conflagration.

**GORA TANNER'S ESCAPE.**  
Miss Gora Tanner, the actress who played in "One Error" last night, was one of the guests of the hotel. Her room was on the Fayette street side.

Miss Tanner is possessed of remarkable nerve.

She lowered herself on the iron fire-escape ladder to the ground without injury further than a half suffocation by the black smoke that poured out of every window.

She was greeted by a great cheer by the crowd, but the cheer was choked almost in its utterance, for a woman was seen to follow the pretty actress down the iron ladder and was dashed to death on the sidewalk below.

The fire started in the kitchen or engine-room, both of which are in a small, separate building.

But the flames soon communicated with the main building, and almost instantaneously spread all parts of the house, filling the corridors with blinding, choking smoke.

**MOTHER AND DAUGHTER UNCONSCIOUS.**  
Under the stairway the firemen found a beautiful young mother, clad only in her nightgown and clasping to her bosom a little babe.

Both were unconscious. They were removed to the Sisters' Hospital, but at last the mother had not yet revived.

BENNETT FORBES, a Syracuse stock broker, rushed into the street almost entirely naked.

He had scrambled down the staircase through a constant blaze, and how he escaped is a mystery. As it was, his only injury was severe burns on his hands from grasping the burning stair rail.

He left a \$500 watch and all his clothing behind him.

The crowd seemed spellbound by the awful scene, and after while the most heart-rending incidents grew so common that they elicited hardly more than a curious interest.

**A STRUGGLE AT A WINDOW.**  
At a third-story window a man and woman were seen, clasped in each other's arms, and with a background of yellow flames.

The woman seemed to desire to leap from the window, while the man restrained her.

All was fire below them. Exit was cut off behind them. There seemed hope only in the window—and there was no hope there.

The woman seemed to plead: the man to urge. Then the woman struggled, she to reach the window and he to restrain her.

The crowd watched with bated breath. The same struggle was going on in every breast, and the three minutes through which those below watched this awful struggle seemed an age.

One last struggle by the women—an unsuccessful struggle to reach the window—and then the grasp of the couple upon each other relaxed.

The arms of each were thrown up, both forms staggered, and then toppled over, falling into the fiery furnace behind them.

In the window disappeared the one in which this awful tragedy of love was enacted was a woman in her night robe.

**DEATH EITHER WAY.**  
She seemed irresolute, for to leap was certain death. To stay was almost as certain to result in death.

The poor creature wrung her hands and stretched them out toward the window below. Then she clambered upon the window sill and after a moment placed her hands above her head, as one does in diving.

A low murmur of horror ran through the crowd below. The hands were lowered, she clasped her arms in prayer on the bosom of the faded woman.

Then she stepped down into the room, and almost at the same instant the flames leaped up behind her in the room and seemed to stretch out their forked arms and gather her in. She was seen no more.

**A FAREWELL FOR AID.**  
At the same moment a woman appeared at a north window on the fourth floor, holding a babe in her arms.

Her pitiful cries came down upon the ears of the horrified crowd, but no help could reach her.

Chief Henry Heller yelled to her through his speaking-trumpet to throw out the fire-escape rope.

She heard it and obeyed, but as she was climbing out of the window the flames overtook her and claimed both mother and child for their own.

The woman fell back into the room, and another tragedy was ended.

A number of the people in the burning building leaped from the rear windows, alighting on a shed. All were more or less injured.

**THE INADEQUATE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**  
The whole city is shrouded in gloom this morning and already public indignation is running high against the penny police of the city, through which while the city has advanced in the last ten years to fifth place among the cities of the state, the fire department has not progressed at all in an inadequate, half-supported institution.

Chief Heller has six engines, two trucks and one chemical engine under his command, and the inadequacy of this force was demonstrated at fearful cost last night.

**THE PROPERTY LOSS.**  
The Leland Hotel was reduced to a ruin. It cost \$150,000, and its furniture, \$50,000. It was a part of the famous Gales Everson estate.

The city did not go to bed at all, and this morning the crowds about the scene of the fire are even greater than during the conflagration.

Each has some special horror to relate. One of the most frightful of the fatalities was that which met a woman who trusted herself to the air and a net held by the hands of a hundred sturdy citizens.

This woman, a man and another woman were on the fifth floor of the big hotel.

They appeared at a window and signalled for help.

A net was produced and a squad of policemen manned it, citizens going to their aid. The man and one woman leaped together from the window. Their bodies went hurtling

line through the air, and they landed in the middle of the big net.

The force of the blow depressed the net to the ground and both suffered fractured limbs, but their lives were saved.

Suddenly there was a cry of terror from the crowd, for before those who had sustained the netting could recover from the shock the other woman leaped from the window.

Her hair streamed in the wind. She was dead only in her right-gown.

She missed the net.

She just missed the edge of the net and was dashed to fragments on the pavement.

A fireman was engaged at this moment in cutting away the telegraph wires that had prevented the raising of an extension ladder for the rescue of these three persons, and he was near enough to hear the frantic screams of these unfortunate.

The flames were leaping out towards them from the interior of the room. When her companions leaped, leaving her alone with danger, this woman screamed pitiously for help.

Clinging to a rope, she made the fatal leap.

She crashed to the ground.

The hotel register was saved, but those who should have had cool heads in this trying moment were wild with excitement, and it was, in the first hours of daylight, utterly impossible to learn anything about the identity even of the survivors.

It is believed that there are a number of bodies still in the building, where they fell before the awful conflagration.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE HOTEL.**  
The Leland Hotel was one of the largest and by all odds the finest hotel in Syracuse, and compared favorably in the matter of furnishings and equipment with any hotel between New York and Chicago.

It was built of brick and stone, was six stories high, occupied the entire block on Franklin street, between Fayette and Washington streets, and was only fifty yards distant from the New York Central Railroad Station.

The American Express Company occupied a story brick building adjoining.

The hotel building was a beautiful structure, especially for hotel purposes, in 1887, and its opening in March, 1888, was one of the social events of the year in Syracuse.

The building was owned by the Everson estate and was leased to Warren Leland, Jr., for a term of years.

The hotel was under the personal management of Mr. Warren Leland, Jr., proprietor of the Ocean Hotel at Long Branch, N. J., who made Syracuse his winter headquarters.

With the exception of two stories on the ground floor, the hotel was a fine street, the entire building was occupied by the hotel.

The office was on the ground floor with two entrances from Franklin street, and the corridor contained a beautiful marble floor, generous old-fashioned fireplaces and luxurious lounge chairs.

The woodwork throughout the entire building was antique oak.

The cigar and news-room, billiard-room, barber shop and cafe were all on the ground floor.

The next floor above was occupied by the two ladies' wings, the beautiful furnished, private dining-rooms, public dining hall, kitchen and sleeping-rooms on the Fayette street side.

The other floors were devoted to sleeping apartments, and upon the sixth floor occupied by a race assembly room, frequently occupied by conventions.

The basement, where the fire was discovered, was occupied by the wine cellar, storeroom, engine-room, bakery and dining-room and kitchen for the hotel help.

The entire building was heated by steam and lighted by electricity. The building cost \$150,000, and the hotel furniture was valued at \$50,000.

The hotel had between 300 and 400 rooms, and was very popular. Soon after it was opened its excellent reputation began to draw custom from the Vanderbilt Hotel, then the leading hotel in the city, and in a short time its proprietor, Pierce B. Brayton, retired.

A disastrous fire in the Vanderbilt shortly afterwards gave the Leland the complete mastery of the situation, and the Leland has since been the acknowledged leading hotel of central New York.

Every room in the Leland Hotel was equipped with electric bells connecting with the office, and they could all be rung instantly at the same time, for thirty minutes; by the electric arrangement was designed especially to prevent the loss of life.

In each room also were rope fire-escapes. There were extinguishers on every floor, and several iron fire-escapes on the outside.

While the building was not fireproof, it was generally believed to be well protected from fire.

With the exception of a large court in the center of the building, there was no air shaft or well in the building, and it is considerable of a mystery how a fire could have obtained such headway without being sooner discovered.

**ANN ARBURN'S PRIDE.**  
Prosperity smiles on Her Grand Educational Institution.

(SPECIAL TO THE WORLD.)  
ANN ARBURN, Mich., Oct. 18.—The honor which the University of Michigan has won this year in having more students enrolled than any other college or university in the Western World is one which she will undoubtedly maintain this year. The first official registration of the year was given yesterday, and the number of students enrolled is 2,246, which is slightly more than the total of last year, and 500 more than at a corresponding time of last year. Taking former years as a precedent, the number of students enrolled is expected to be 2,500, the additional number being from those who enter at the beginning of the year.

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line through the air, and they landed in the middle of the big net.

The force of the blow depressed the net to the ground and both suffered fractured limbs, but their lives were saved.

Suddenly there was a cry of terror from the crowd, for before those who had sustained the netting could recover from the shock the other woman leaped from the window.

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The flames were leaping out towards them from the interior of the room. When her companions leaped, leaving her alone with danger, this woman screamed pitiously for help.

Clinging to a rope, she made the fatal leap.

She crashed to the ground.

The hotel register was saved, but those who should have had cool heads in this trying moment were wild with excitement, and it was, in the first hours of daylight, utterly impossible to learn anything about the identity even of the survivors.

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